

Torrance, California
October 25, 1938

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF TORRANCE

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a Regular Meeting in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California, on Tuesday evening, October 25, 1938 at 7:45 P.M.

Mayor Tolson called the meeting to order.

Clerk Bartlett called the roll, those answering present being Councilmen: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. Absent: Councilmen: None.

Councilman McGuire moved that the minutes of a Regular Meeting held October 11, 1938 be approved as written. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

A communication was read from Huntington Land and Improvement Company, enclosing letter from Coast and Valley Properties, Inc. granting permission for excavation of property known as Lots 21 to 40 inclusive, Block D, except the Southerly 40 feet of said Lots 39 and 40, all within Tract No. 10307, provided certain requirements are complied with.

In connection with this, Mr. Young stated that the Works Progress Administration office will complete the application for this project within a few days, at which time it will be ready for presentation.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to sign the agreement when completed and after it has been approved by the City Attorney. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

A communication was read from the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, together with a report covering activities of the Chamber of Commerce for the period ending September 30, 1938. This was presented as a matter of record.

A communication was read from the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, calling attention to the banquet and ceremonies scheduled for November 4th and 5th in connection with the opening of the reconstructed Cuesta Grade. No action.

A communication was read from the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, enclosing a tentative list of expenditures attendant to promotion of the Torrance Factory Frolic, and requesting an appropriation of \$400.00, said appropriation to be used only

after funds now on hand for such purpose are exhausted.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the request be granted. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Powell. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read in full:

RESOLUTION NO. 1220

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF TORRANCE CONDEMNING EFFORTS TO SUBJECT TO
FEDERAL TAXATION THE INCOME FROM MUNICIPAL
BONDS AND THE SALARIES OF MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES,
AND TO GIVE SUCH TAXATION RETROACTIVE EFFECT.

Councilman McGuire moved that Resolution No. 1220 be adopted. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mr. Young reported that the dry well between Cota and Portola Avenues (Block 28) discussed at the last meeting had been completed.

In connection with the request for stop signs at Highway 101 and Hawthorne Boulevard, Mr. Young reported that Mr. Emerson of the Automobile Club and Mr. Davis of the State Highway Department had met with a group of citizens from the Walteria Improvement Association, together with Mr. Young and Mr. Hitchcock, and had arrived at the conclusion that nothing further could be done in the matter.

Mr. Young announced that he had not as yet received an answer to his communication to Santa Fe Railroad Company requesting a wig-wag signal at Crenshaw and Torrance Boulevard.

Attorney McCall reported the Pacific Electric right-of-way matter to be still pending.

Attorney McCall advised that his written report pertaining to legal procedure for establishing special fund from city dump revenue will be completed soon.

Attorney McCall stated that he had talked with Mr. Bisbee of the Huntington Land Company about the archeological project and that Mr. Bisbee had made a requirement that students from other colleges be allowed to watch the excavation proceedings.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of \$56.00 be made for dry well in the alley of Block 28 between Cota and Portola Avenues. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the Manager of the Water Company be authorized to attend the Water Convention in Riverside, expenses paid. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMAN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman McGuire reported that plans for a police radio communication system in this district had been abandoned for the present.

Mayor Tolson moved that the Purchasing Agent be authorized to prepare specifications and advertise for a car (coupe) to be used by the Director of Public Safety. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Tolson appointed Councilman McGuire in charge of entertainment in connection with the County League of Municipalities function to be held November 17, 1938.

Mayor Tolson introduced from the audience Councilman Egerer of Hermosa Beach.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. R. J. Deininger, speaking in behalf of the Kiwanis Club, brought up the subject of the deplorable condition of the streets in Torrance, especially the main-travelled business streets.

Councilman Hitchcock advised Mr. Deininger that allocations for street repair had been made, particularly from the 1/4-cent gasoline tax funds. Mr. Deininger replied that he understood gasoline tax funds could only be used on streets of major importance, to which Mr. Hitchcock answered that it is the duty of the City to prove that those streets desired to be improved are of major importance.

Mayor Tolson recommended that the matter be referred to the finance Committee for investigation.

Councilman McGuire presented a report of Assets and Liabilities of the Torrance Municipal Water District No. 1 for the period ending September 30, 1938.

Mr. Johnson asked whether or not he would be granted a permit to proceed with the construction of a third house on a lot in the district which has submitted a petition for single family residence zoning.

A gentleman with Mr. Johnson explained that, at the time construction was started, no such zoning existed and Mr. Johnson would never have started construction if he had contemplated such action. He stated further that two small houses are already built on the back of the lot and original plans were for a larger house on the front of the lot, facing on Beech Street.

After a lengthy discussion, Mr. Hitchcock suggested that Mr. Johnson draw up plans for the large house and bring them into the Engineering Department, whereupon the City Council will investigate the matter thoroughly. This suggestion was agreed upon.

A gentleman reported that two cesspools at 231st and Narbonne Streets are very much in need of repair. Referred to the Street Department.

Mr. R.R. Smith, former Mayor and Councilman, was introduced at this time and made a few enlightening comments pertaining to the European method of acquiring land, he having recently returned from Europe.

Councilman Hitchcock moved all bills properly audited be paid. Councilman McGuire seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Hitchcock, McGuire, Murray, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

At 8:20 P.M., upon motion of Councilman Hitchcock, seconded by Councilman McGuire, the meeting adjourned.

A. H. Bauder
City Clerk of the City of Torrance

Approved:

W. R. Tolson
Mayor of the City of Torrance